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Message Text

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42
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 L-03 EB-07 TRSE-00 COME-00

CIEP-01 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

PA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 INT-05 OMB-01

PRS-01 /059 W
---------- 011490
O 051525Z NOV 75
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7478

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 9143

FOR ARA - ALFRED FISHLOW; L- MONROE LEIGH; EB - THOMAS ENDERS;
TREASURY - JOHN BUSHNELL; COMMERCE - DON ARRILL; CIEP - WAYNE
SHARP

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EINV, EIND, PFOR, PE
SUBJECT: MARCONA - USG-GOP TALKS POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT WEEK

REF: A. DEAN-FISHLOW TELECON 11/3/75; B. LIMA 9036
C. LIMA 8987; D. BRASILIA 9500

1. SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR DE LA PUENTE CALLED AMBASSADOR
AFTERNOON OF NOVEMBER 3 TO INFORM HIM THAT HIERROPERU HEAD
GENERAL (RET.) BOSSIO HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM HIS POST BY
THE GOP AND THAT HIS DEPARTURE WILL ENABLE GOP TEAM TO OB-
TAIN NECESSARY DATA FROM HIERROPERU. HE THEREFORE REQUESTED
FIVE-DAY POSTPONEMENT IN USG-GOP TALKS RE MARCONA. IN
TELECON REF A, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FISHLOW AGREED WITH
AMBASSADOR'S RECOMMENDATION TO POSTPONE TRIP TO ENABLE
GOP TO ASSEMBLE FURTHER INFORMATION. AMBASSADOR TALKED WITH
DE LA PUENTE EVENING OF
NOVEMBER 3, CONVEYING WASHINGTON'S DECISION TO POSTPONE TRIP
UNTIL NEXT WEEK. DE LA PUENTE EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT
USG DECISION, THANKED AMBASSADOR AND SAID THAT TENTA-
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TIVELY GOP WOULD PLAN FOR FIRST JOINT WORKING SESSION

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ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10. END SUMMARY

2. AMBASSADOR JOSE DE LA PUENTE RADBILL CALLED AMBASSADOR MONDAY AFTERNOON TO INFORM HIM THAT GENERAL JUAN BOSSIO, HEAD OF HIERROPERU, HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM HIS POSITION. DE LA PUENTE SAID THAT BOSSIO HAD RESISTED HIS REMOVAL WHICH EVENTUALLY REQUIRED A SUPREME RESOLUTION AND THAT HIS DEPARTURE WAS NOT YET KNOWN PUBLICLY. (NOTE: BOSSIO'S RESIGNATION WAS CARRIED IN NOVEMBER 4 OFFICIAL GAZETTE WHICH PUBLISHED A SUPREME RESOLUTION SIGNED BY MINES MINISTER GENERAL LA VERA VELARDE ANNOUNCING HIS RESIGNATION EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1.) DE LA PUENTE SAID THAT BOSSIO'S REMOVAL WILL NOW ENABLE GOP TEAM TO OBTAIN ACCESS TO HIERROPERU DATE WHICH BOSSIO HAD REFUSED TO MAKE AVAILABLE. DE LA PUENTE SAID HE REALIZED THAT TIME WAS SHORT, BUT GOP SIDE WOULD LIKE FIVE MORE DAYS TO DO ITS HOMEWORK ON BASIS OF NEW DATA IT WILL NOW RECEIVE FROM HIERROPERU. HE THEREFORE ASKED WHETHER AMBASSADOR COULD RECOMMEND TO DEPARTMENT THAT FISHLOW TEAM POSTPONE VISIT TO LIMA UNTIL NEXT WEEK. THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE WOULD TALK TO FISHLOW TO SEE IF TEAM HAD NOT ALREADY LEFT WASHINGTON TO SEE IF A POSTPONEMENT WAS POSSIBLE.

3. IN TELECON WITH FISHLOW (REF A), IT WAS AGREED THAT USG TEAM WOULD POSTPONE ITS TRIP UNTIL NEXT WEEK AND THAT, HOPEFULLY, ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE TO BEGIN CONVER-SATIONS ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10 OR SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

4. IN LATE EVENING TELECON WITH DE LA PUENTE NOVEMBER 3, AMBASSADOR INFORMED HIM FISHLOW TEAM HAD AGREED TO POST-PONE TRIP UNTIL AT LEAST THE WEEKEND. AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED HOPE THAT POSTPONEMENT WILL PERMIT GOP TEAM ADDITIONAL TIME TO PREPARE BASIC DATA AND ITS POSITION WHICH WOULD LEAD TO RESOLUTION OF PROBLEM OF COMPENSATION. DE LA PUENTE SAID HE WOULD TENTATIVELY PLAN FOR A WORKING SESSION FOR THE AFTERNOON OF MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10. DURING TEAM STAY, DE LA PUENTE ADDED THAT HE PLANS TO HOST INFORMAL LUNCHEON SIMILAR TO ONE OFFERED BY AMBASSADOR ON LAST VISIT OF USG TEAM. DE LA PUENTE ALSO SAID THAT HE WOULD AWAIT CONFIRMA-TION FROM FISHLOW TEAM BEFORE MAKING DEFINITE ARRANGEMENTS.

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5. COMMENT: DE LA PUENTE CONFIRMED RUMORS REPORTED REF B THAT BOSSIO WAS ON HIS WAY OUT WHICH WERE, OF COURSE, CON-FIRMED BY YESTERDAY'S SUPREME RESOLUTION. WE HAVE HEARD THAT POST MAY GO TO FORMER COMMERCE MINISTER GENERAL FAP (RET.) LUIS BARANDIARAN PAGADOR OR POSSIBLY TO A CIVILIAN, VICE MINISTER OF MINES ANTONIO TORD GOMEZ.

6. WE THINK A COMBINATION OF FACTORS PROBABLY INFLUENCED

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GOP TO POSTPONE TALKS WITH US. FIRST, SENIOR ARMY AND AIR
FORCE CHANGES HAVE UNDOUBTEDLY PREOCCUPIED SENIOR LEVELS
OF GOP DURING THE LAST DAYS, AND UNTIL THEY WERE SETTLED
IT WAS PROBABLY NOT POSSIBLE TO MAKE DECISION TO REMOVE
BOSSIO, MUCH LESS FOCUS ON BOTH THE METHODOLOGY AND
THE DATA NECESSARY TO CALCULATE A GOP COMPENSATION
FIGURE. SECOND, PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ AND MOST
OF HIS CABINET ARE TRAVELING THIS WEEK IN PUNO-CUZCO
REGION AND ARE CONSEQUENTLY NOT AVAILABLE IN LIMA TO
MAKE ANY POLICY DECISIONS ON MARCONA OR OTHER SENSITIVE
ISSUES. THIRD, WE TEND TO BELIEVE THAT BOSSIO MAY WELL HAVE
BEEN OBSTRUCTING ACCESS TO HIERROPERU DATA WHICH GOP TEAM
NEEDS FOR ITS CALCULATION. THE FACT THAT BOSSIO HAS BEEN
REMOVED IS THEREFORE A POSITIVE SIGN THAT GOP INTENDS TO
MOVE FORWARD ON MARCONA ISSUE, ALTHOUGH WE WILL, AS ALWAYS,
HAVE TO BE PREPARED FOR SOME HARD BARGAINING IN THE PROCESS.
FINALLY, AND BY NO MEANS LEAST, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS
CONFIRMED TO US THAT BRAZILIAN FOREIGN MINISTER (REF D)
SILVEIRIA WILL BE VISITING LIMA FOR INTENSIVE BILATERAL
ECONOMIC TALKS LATER THIS WEEK, AND IT IS LIKELY THAT DE
LA PUENTE AND HIS FOREIGN MINISTRY COLLEAGUES SUDDENLY
REALIZED THAT THEY COULD NOT HANDLE BOTH THE BRAZILIANS
AND THE USG TEAM SIMULTANEOUSLY.
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